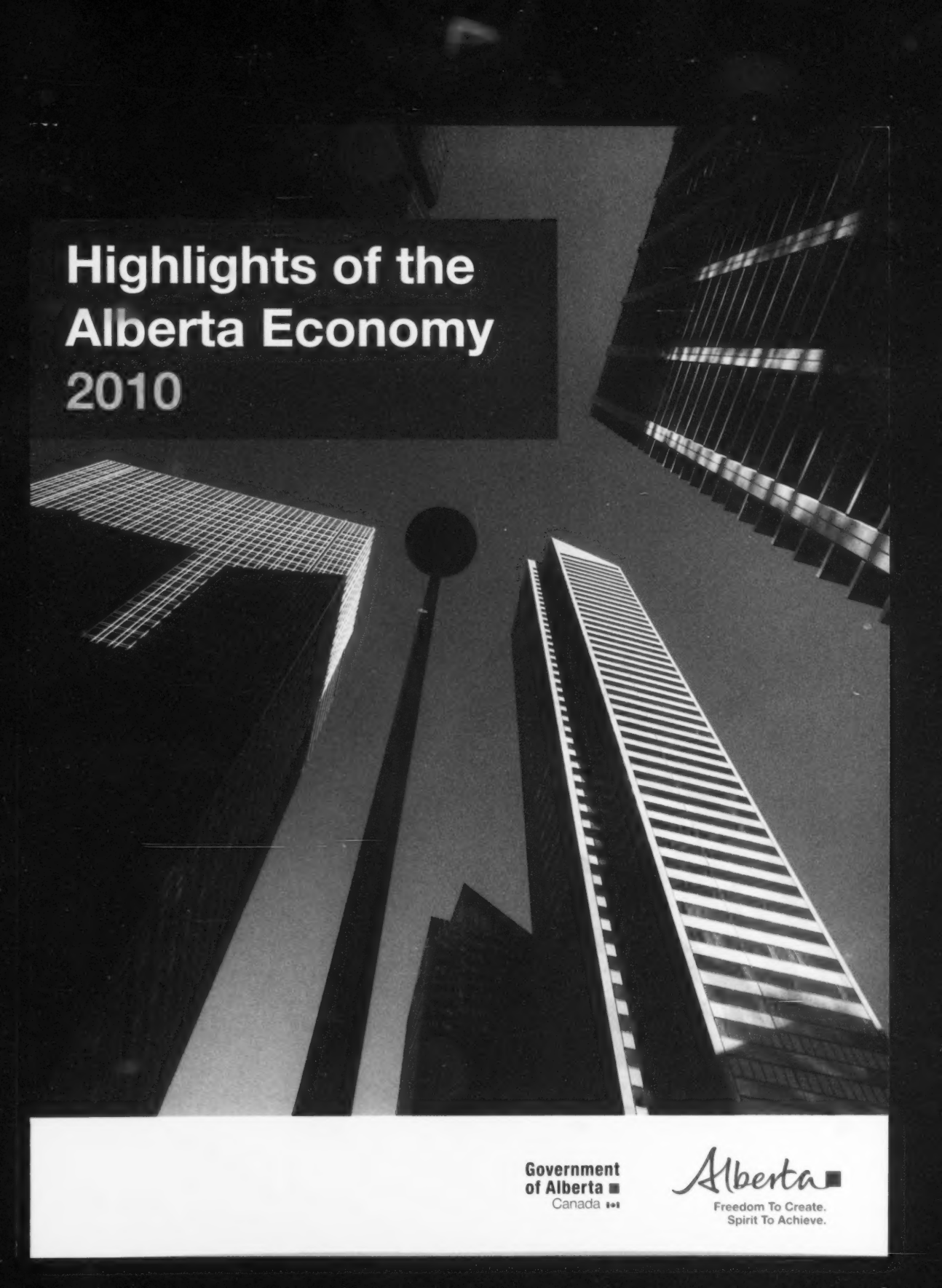
Highlights of the
Alberta Economy
2010
Government
of Alberta
Canada
Alberta
Freedom To Create.
Spirit To Achieve.

Premier's Message

Alberta is a great place to live, work and invest thanks to its quality of life and business-friendly environment – and that has remained true through the global downturn and the economic recovery. Low taxes, a strong financial position, a skilled workforce and abundant resources provide a solid economic footing for the long-term future of Alberta and Canada.

Albertans live in a beautiful province, home of majestic mountains, clean lakes and rivers, rolling prairies and foothills. The province is also home to a thriving energy industry, built on abundant natural resources that include the oil sands, the second-largest proven oil deposit in the world. Our province is the number one exporter of oil to the United States and is poised to become a global energy supplier.

We believe in the responsible and sustainable development of all our resources. Resource conservation and environmental stewardship have long been – and remain – a central part of energy development in Alberta. We have strict regulations in place to balance environmental protection and industrial development for the benefit of all Albertans. We have long known the importance of environmental stewardship and will continue to use and develop technologies than reduce the footprint of economic development on the environment.

Alberta has a plan that ensures it will remain one of the most competitive jurisdictions in North America. Our new *Competitiveness Act* will improve the province's ability to compete in key areas such as financial services, manufacturing, petrochemicals and agriculture. Our goal is simple: to remain the destination of choice for both families and businesses for years to come.

I invite you to learn more about Alberta's economy and explore living, working or doing business in our great province.

Ed Stelmach

Ed Stelmach
Premier of Alberta

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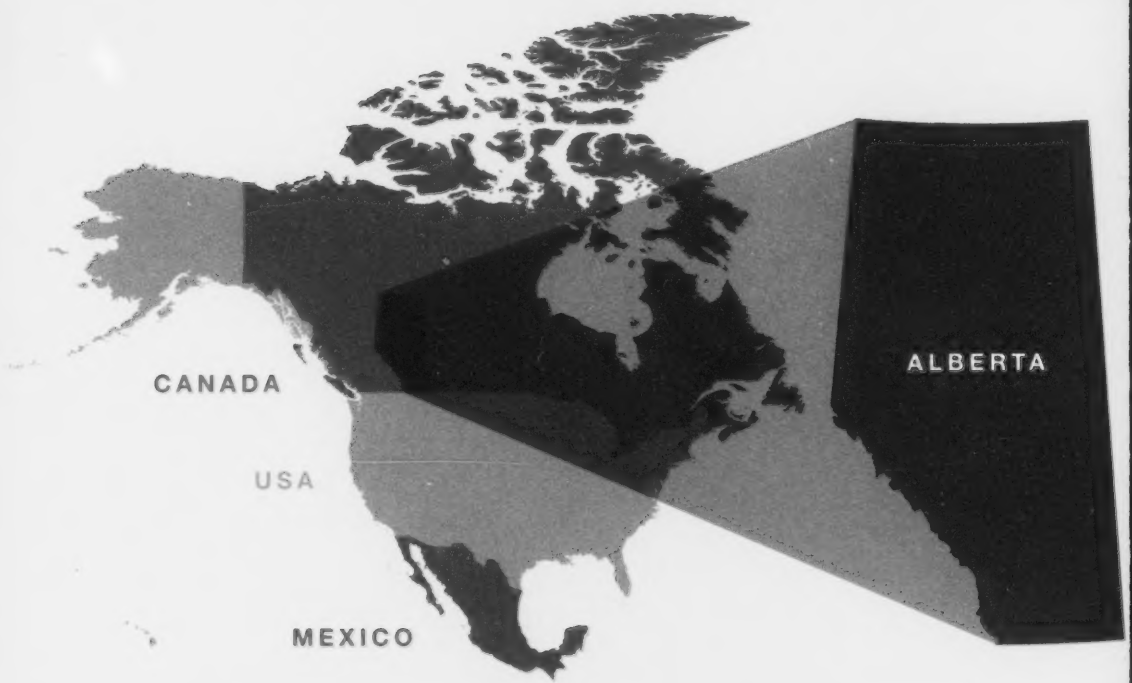
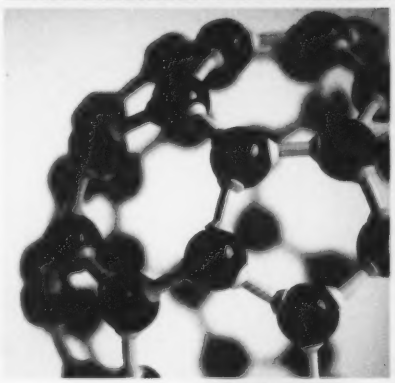
Alberta: The Best Place to Live, Work and Do Business



- Alberta is Canada's second most western province. The province's borders touch the Canadian Rocky Mountains to the west, the vast prairies to the east, the United States to the south and the Canadian arctic to the north.
- On average, the province's 3.7 million people are the youngest of all Canadian provinces, with a median age of 35.6 years.
- One of every six Albertans was born outside of Canada.
- Over half of the 2.1 million-strong labour force is well educated, holding a post-secondary degree, diploma or certificate.
- During the past 20 years, Alberta's economy has led the nation in average annual economic growth, and is poised to lead again by 2011.
- The energy sector is Alberta's driving economic force and is supported by other key industry sectors:
  - petrochemicals,
  - agriculture and agri-food,
  - forest products,
  - industrial machinery and metal fabrication,
  - tourism, and
  - information and communications technology.
- Alberta's international airports in Edmonton and Calgary provide excellent air service to both domestic and international destinations.
- To promote its presence in key markets, Alberta operates nine international trade and investment offices, including six in Alberta's second-largest market, Asia.



Economic Highlights

DID YOU KNOW?

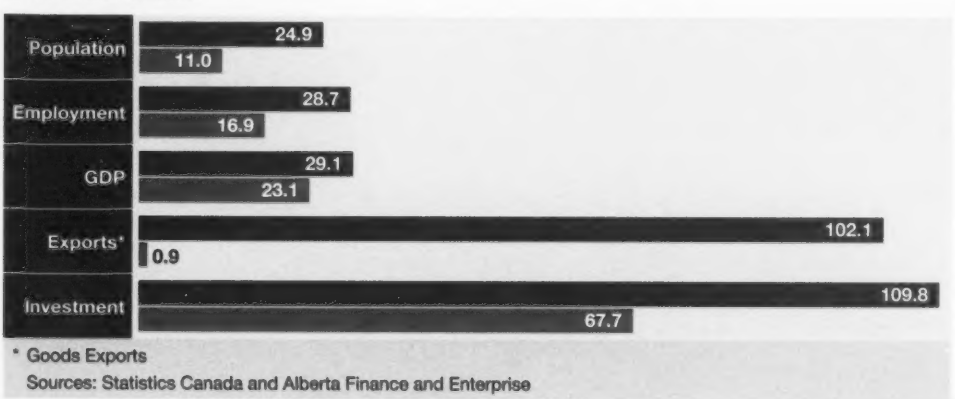
* In 2009, per capita investment in Alberta was $18,024, almost twice the national average of $9,174.
* Every dollar invested in the oil sands creates about $9 worth of economic activity, with one-third of that economic value generated outside Alberta – in Canada, the U.S. and around the world.
* Although Alberta's energy sector accounts for more than one-quarter of its GDP, the province's GDP shares of other sectors, such as construction, finance and real estate, grew significantly between 1985 and 2008.

Growth

ALBERTA LEADS THE NATION IN POPULATION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Alberta led all provinces in average annual economic growth over the last 20 years.
- Over a span of one year, Alberta's population increased by 2.6 per cent to reach 3.7 million by July 2009.
- Between 1999 and 2009, Alberta accounted for 22 per cent of Canada's population growth.
- In 2006, the official Statistics Canada Census indicated that the population of Alberta increased by 315,000 since the previous census completed in 2001.
- In 2009, the Alberta economy contracted by an estimated 5.1 per cent, due to the global economic crisis and falling commodity prices.
- In 2009, employment decreased by 25,200 jobs, international merchandise exports were $69 billion, and investment totalled $66 billion.
- By 2011, private sector forecasts suggest that Alberta will again lead the country in economic growth.

Growth In Selected Indicators: 1999–2009 (percentage change)



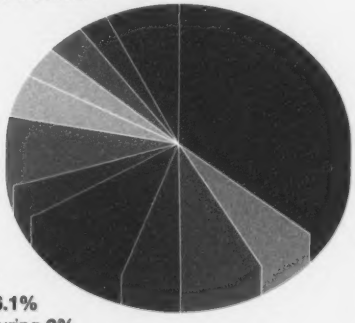
* Goods Exports

Sources: Statistics Canada and Alberta Finance and Enterprise

Economic Prosperity

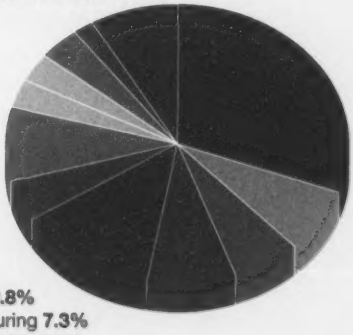
- Alberta's diverse economy provides the broad-based growth that is crucial to sustaining stable, long-term economic growth.
- Energy accounts for more than one-quarter of the province's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
- Other sectors have shown considerable growth over the past two decades. From 1985 to 2008 the following non-energy sectors grew:
  - construction sector from 6.7 per cent share of GDP in 1985 to 8.3 per cent in 2008;
  - finance and real estate sector from 11.0 per cent to 13.1 per cent, and
  - the business and commercial services sector from 5.5 per cent to 8.5 per cent.

Economic Diversity: 1985
Percentage Distribution of GDP
Total GDP: $66.8 Billion



- Energy **36.1%**
- Manufacturing **6%**
- Transp. & Util. **7.7%**
- Bus. & Comm. Services **5.5%**
- Finance & Real Estate **11%**
- Tourism & Cons. Services **3.8%**
- Ret. & Whls. **8.1%**
- Public Admin. **4.8%**
- Education **3.6%**
- Health **3.6%**
- Agriculture **3%**
- Construction **6.7%**

Economic Diversity: 2008
Percentage Distribution of GDP
Total GDP: $291.3 Billion



- Energy **30.8%**
- Manufacturing **7.3%**
- Transp. & Util. **6.4%**
- Bus. & Comm. Services **8.5%**
- Finance & Real Estate **13.1%**
- Tourism & Cons. Services **4.8%**
- Ret. & Whls. **8.6%**
- Public Admin. **3.2%**
- Education **3.3%**
- Health **4.0%**
- Agriculture **1.8%**
- Construction **8.3%**

Sources: Statistics Canada and Alberta Finance and Enterprise

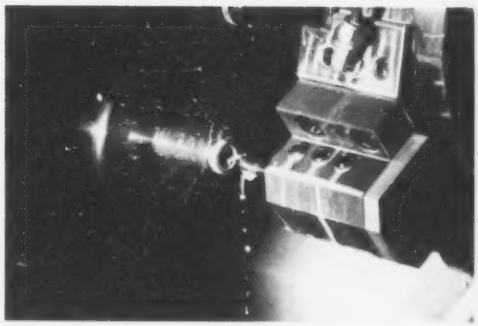
Attractive Investment Climate

- Alberta continues to lead the country in per capita investment.
- In 2009, per capita investment in Alberta was $18,024, almost twice the national average of $9,174.
- In 2009, investment fell to $66 billion due to the global economic crisis and low energy prices.
- Investment is expected to bounce back over the next two to three years, driven by investment in oil sands development, utilities, manufacturing and business services.

Per Capita Investment: 2009

Source: Statistics Canada

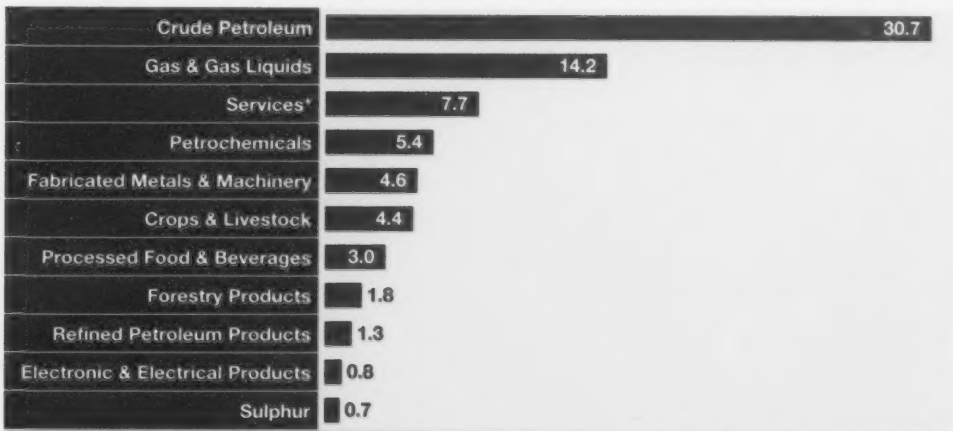
Exports



- In 2009, Alberta exported $76.8 billion worth of goods and services to 189 countries, an increase of 7.3 per cent from five years ago.
- In 2009, Alberta's exports declined as a result of lower commodity prices and volumes, especially for energy products.
- However, exports started picking up in the first half of 2010 – totalling $40.3 billion. This is 20 per cent higher than what was reported for the same period in 2009.
- Alberta exports an increasing amount and variety of manufactured products such as petrochemicals, and fabricated metals and machinery.

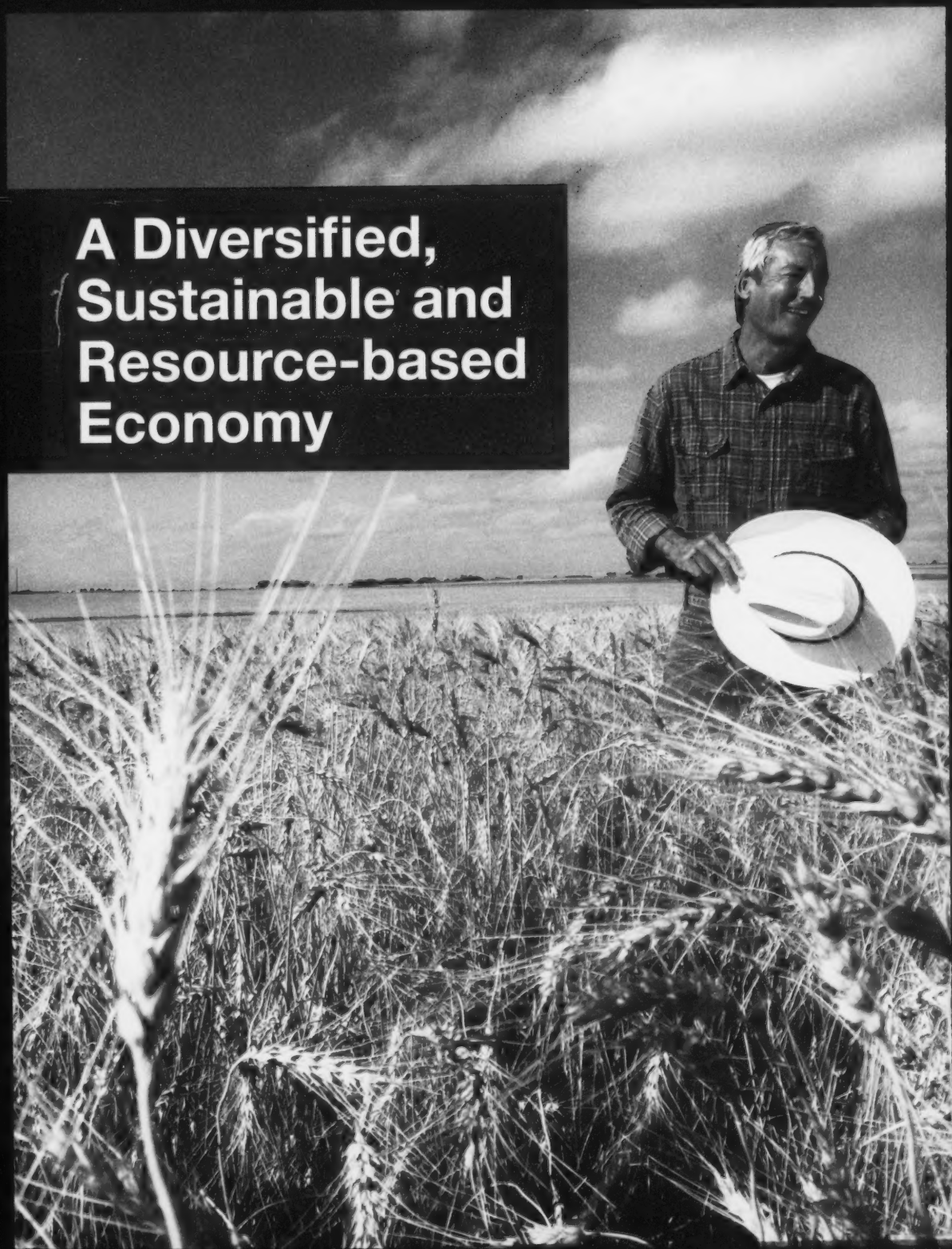
Alberta's Major Exports 2009 ($ Billions)

Total Exports of Goods and Services: $76.8 Billion*



* Export of services amount is an estimate.

Sources: Statistics Canada and Alberta Finance and Enterprise


A Diversified, Sustainable and Resource-based Economy

DID YOU KNOW?

* Between 1999 and 2009, Alberta's manufacturing shipments increased by 48.6 per cent to $55.1 billion and international exports more than doubled.

* Over the past 10 years, Alberta's financial services industry has experienced exceptional growth fuelled by high levels of capital investment in Alberta's energy sector. Alberta's financial services industry manages over $100 billion in assets on an annual basis.

* Alberta's oil sands contribute less than one-tenth of one per cent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.

* Alberta is the first jurisdiction in North America to legislate limits for large emitters across all sectors—including the oil sands—and the only jurisdiction in North America which requires emitters to pay if they don't meet the targets.

Energy

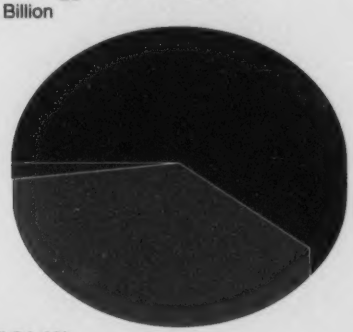
ENERGY REVENUE

- Alberta produces 71 per cent of Canada's crude oil and 81 per cent of its natural gas.
- Alberta has the second largest petroleum reserves in the world, second only to Saudi Arabia.
- The Energy Resources Conservation Board forecasts that production from oil sands will more than double to 2.9 million barrels per day by 2019, up from 1.3 million barrels per day in 2009.
- In 2009, gross revenues from all hydrocarbons were $64.1 billion, with crude oil revenues accounting for more than 60 per cent of the total.

ALBERTA'S ENERGY EXPORTS

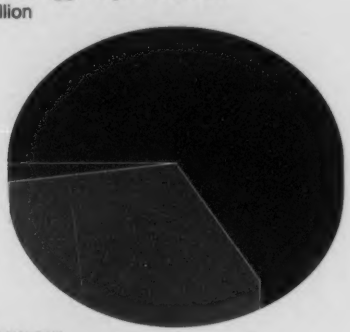
- In 2009, energy resource exports accounted for $46 billion of exports, about 60 per cent of Alberta's total exports of goods and services in that year.

Alberta's Energy Revenues 2009
Total: $64.1 Billion



- Crude Oil **61.1%**
- Coal and Sulphur **1.7%**
- Natural Gas & Gas Liquids **37.2%**

Alberta's Energy Exports 2009
Total: $46 Billion

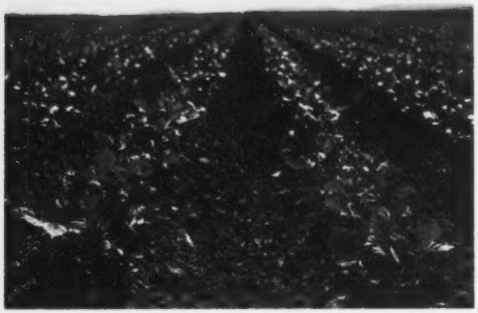


- Crude Oil **66.9%**
- Coal and Sulphur **2.2%**
- Natural Gas & Gas Liquids **30.9%**

Sources: Statistics Canada, Energy Resources Conservation Board, Alberta Finance and Enterprise

Environment

- Alberta's oil sands account for about five per cent of Canada's overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and Canada is responsible for about two per cent of global emissions.
- This means Alberta's oil sands contribute less than one-tenth of one per cent of the world's GHG emissions.
- Alberta's climate change strategy ensures environmental protection while maintaining quality of life and allowing for sustainable economic growth.
- Large industrial emitters of GHGs per year must meet mandatory reduction targets. Emitters unable to meet the target must pay $15-per-tonne into a clean energy technology fund or purchase Alberta offset carbon credits. Alberta is the only jurisdiction in North America with this requirement.
- Strict limits are placed on industry water use through a Water Management Framework. The framework puts a week-by-week cap on how much water oil sands companies can remove, and is tied to the naturally fluctuating flow of the Lower Athabasca River.
- Air quality is monitored 24 hours a day, 365 days a year across the province and is rated good in the oil sands region – the highest quality.
- The Alberta government has committed $2 billion (CDN) to commercial scale carbon capture and storage projects.

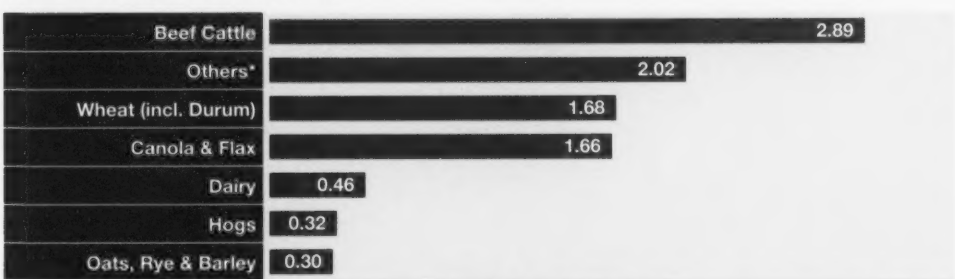


Agriculture

- Alberta has one of the world's most productive agricultural economies with more than 51 million acres or 20 million hectares used for crop and livestock production.
- In 2009, total farm cash receipts reached $9.3 billion. Alberta represented 21.1 per cent of the value of Canada's total agricultural production and posted the country's third highest livestock and crop market receipts.
- Alberta has a rapidly expanding value-added agricultural products sector. In 2009, manufacturing shipments of Alberta's food and beverage processing industries reached $11.9 billion. Meat product manufacturing accounted for more than half of the sector's shipments.

Alberta's Major Agricultural Products 2009 ($ Billions)

Farm Cash Receipts, Total: $9.3 Billion

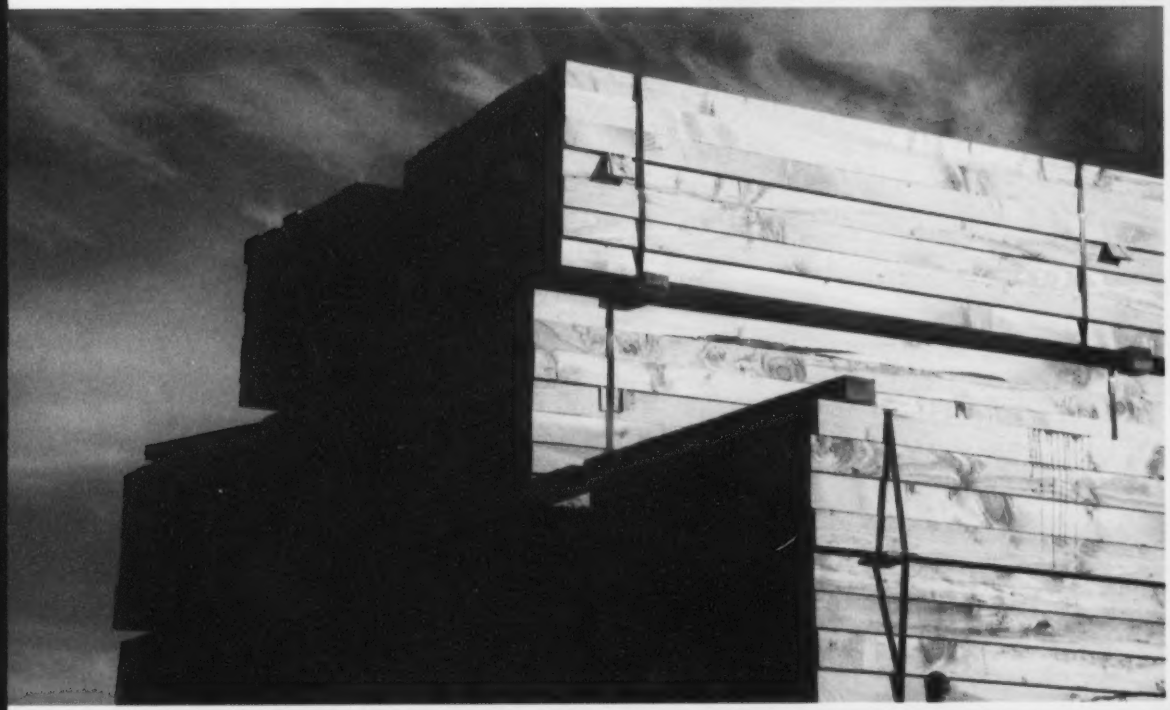


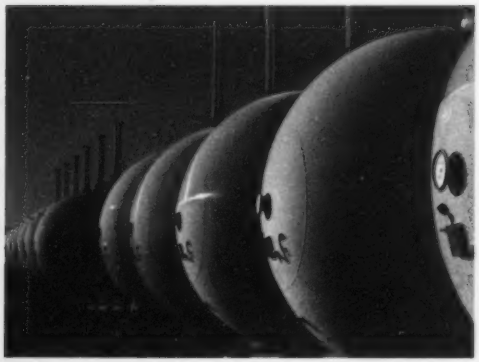
* Includes specialty cash crops, honey, poultry, eggs, program payments, etc.

Source: Statistics Canada

Forestry

- In 2009, shipments of forest products reached $3.4 billion, and exports were $1.8 billion.
- Fifty-eight per cent or 38 million hectares of Alberta is forested. Of this, about 60 per cent or 22.5 million hectares are considered suitable for harvest.
- Alberta's commercially productive timber land base of 26.1 million hectares covers 40 per cent of Alberta's total area and includes in excess of 2.2 billion cubic metres (m^3) of growing stock.
- Annually, Alberta allows 29.7 million m^3 to be harvested, of which 18.4 million m^3 is coniferous, and 11.3 million m^3 is deciduous.



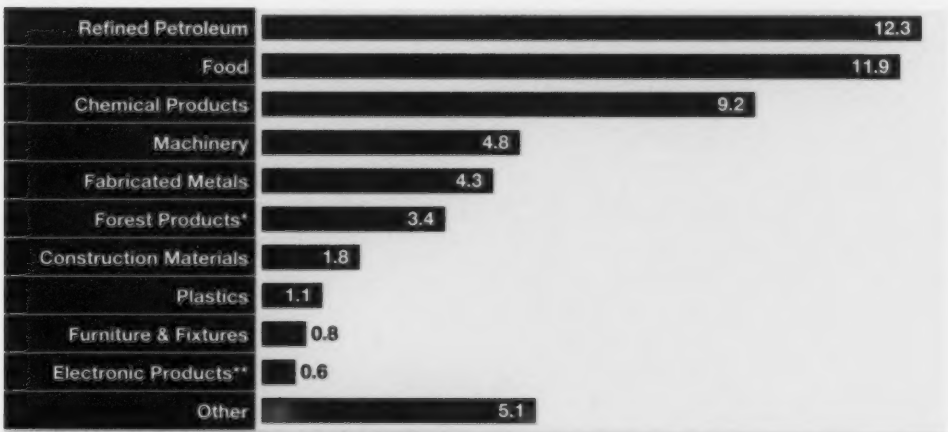


Manufacturing

- Between 1999 and 2009, Alberta's manufacturing shipments increased by 48.6 per cent to $55.1 billion.
- From 2003 to 2008, real manufacturing output in Alberta grew by 29 per cent, the second highest provincial growth rate.
- By comparison, Canadian manufacturing output declined by 5.2 per cent over the same period.
- In 2009, the global economic crisis caused manufacturing output in Alberta to decline by 17 per cent.
- About two-thirds of manufacturing output consists of value-added resource products such as petrochemicals, forest products and food products.
- In 2009, the largest manufacturing sectors were food products, chemicals, industrial machinery and fabricated metal products.

Value of Alberta Manufacturing Shipments 2009 ($ Billions)

Total: $55.1 Billion



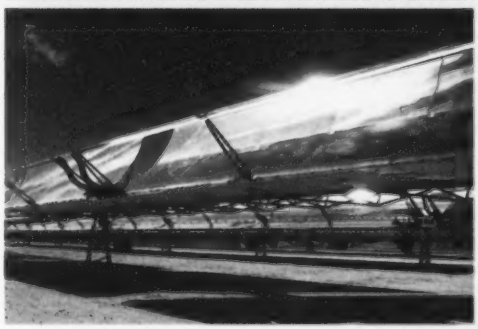
* Includes wood and pulp & paper industries

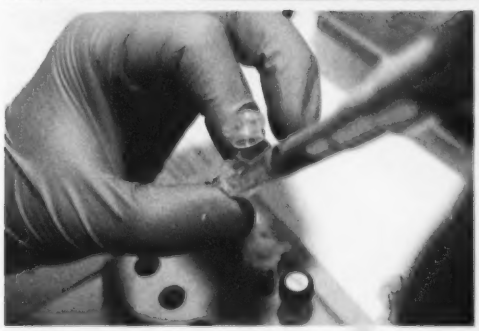
** Includes telecom equipment

Source: Statistics Canada

Advanced Technology Industries

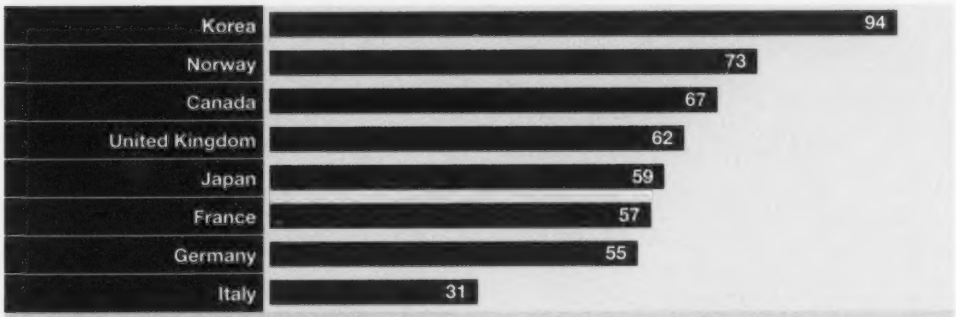
- Alberta's key advanced technology sectors include clean energy, information and communication technology (ICT), life sciences and nanotechnology.
- The Alberta government remains committed to energy and environmental research, and pursuing these and other opportunities in partnership with industry.
- Research is needed to develop ways to extract conventional oil, heavy oil and bitumen. Research is also being conducted to find ways to reduce the impact of greenhouse gases and other emissions.
- Information and communications technology is one of Alberta's key sectors. It includes more than 4,200 companies and nearly 60,000 employees generating over $8 billion in annual revenues in 2009.
- Alberta is home to more than 130 bio-industry companies. The majority of companies operate in the health, biotechnology and medical devices and equipment sectors. Alberta bio-industry revenues are estimated to be more than $800 million, and the industry employs more than 4,500 workers.





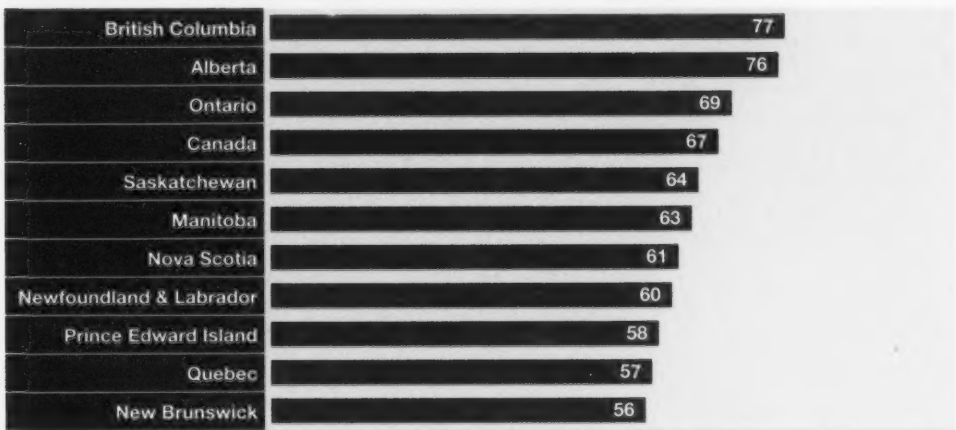
Advanced Technology Industries

Broadband Usage – International 2008
(Percentage of Households Accessing the Internet by Broadband)



Sources: Statistics Canada and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

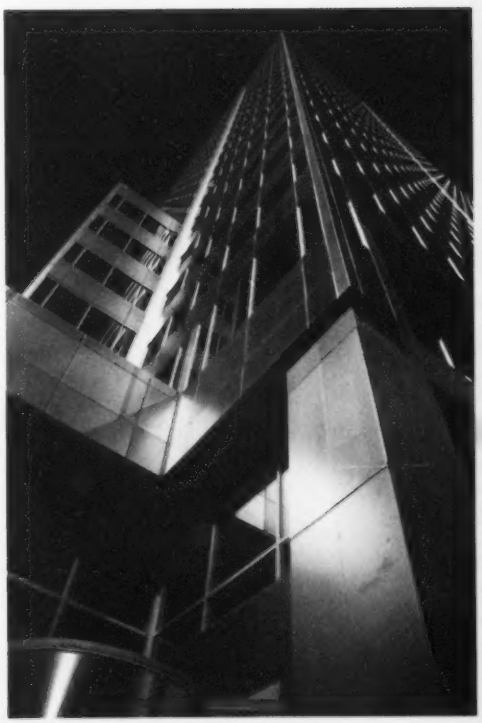
Broadband Usage – Canada 2008
(Percentage of Households Accessing the Internet by Broadband)



Sources: Statistics Canada and OECD

Financial Services

- Over the past 10 years, Alberta's financial services industry has experienced exceptional growth fuelled by high levels of capital investment in Alberta's energy sector. The industry manages over $100 billion in assets on an annual basis.
- Alberta's financial services industry offers a sound, sustainable and strong foundation on which the province can build and expand.
- This industry is comprised of six major Canadian banks and a number of other financial institutions including ATB Financial, Canadian Western Bank and Alberta Investment Management Corporation (AIMCO).
- In 2009, the financial services sector contributed $8.2 billion to Alberta's economy, accounting for roughly 4.8 per cent of the province's total GDP.
- Between 2002 and 2009, the financial services sector's GDP rose by 54.5 per cent, outpacing all other industries in the province. By comparison, GDP in Canada's financial services sector rose by 28.7 per cent over the same period.



Financial Services

Financial Services Employment Growth 2002–2009

Percentage Increase in Employment

Source: Statistics Canada

Financial Services GDP Growth 2002–2009

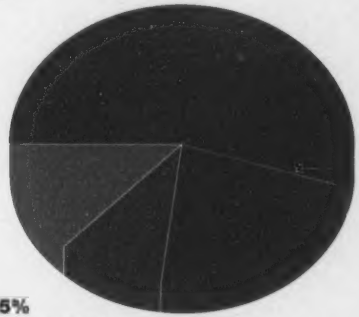
Percentage Increase in GDP

Source: Statistics Canada

Tourism

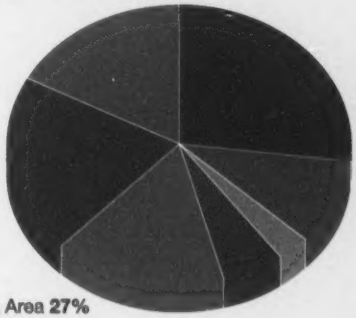
- Alberta offers visitors a wide variety of attractions ranging from natural scenic beauty, diverse landscapes, world renowned national and provincial parks, bustling shopping locales, festivals, and athletic events.
- Tourism provides approximately 109,000 jobs for Albertans, and generated an estimated $5.7 billion in revenues in 2009. Nearly one-half of these revenues, about $2.6 billion, came from out-of-province visitors.
- The Calgary and Area tourism destination region was Alberta's top tourism draw in 2008, accounting for 27 per cent of all person nights spent in the province. The Edmonton and Area, Canadian Rockies and Alberta Central tourism destination regions followed closely behind, accounting for 21 per cent, 17 per cent, and 16 per cent, respectively, of the number of nights spent by visitors in the province.
- Rural Alberta also benefits from the province's tourism industry. Visitors find a wide range of unique experiences throughout rural areas: dinosaur digs, world-class fishing, teepee camping trips, PGA calibre golfing and much more. Another growth area for Alberta's tourism industry is sustainable tourism. Travellers can show their support for green, environmental practices by visiting facilities like Blackfoot Crossing and the Dinosaur Provincial Park visitor centre in the Canadian Badlands.

Alberta Tourism Receipts by Visitor Origin: 2009*
Total: $5.7 Billion



- Alberta **55%**
- Other Canadian **22%**
- United States **10%**
- Overseas **13%**

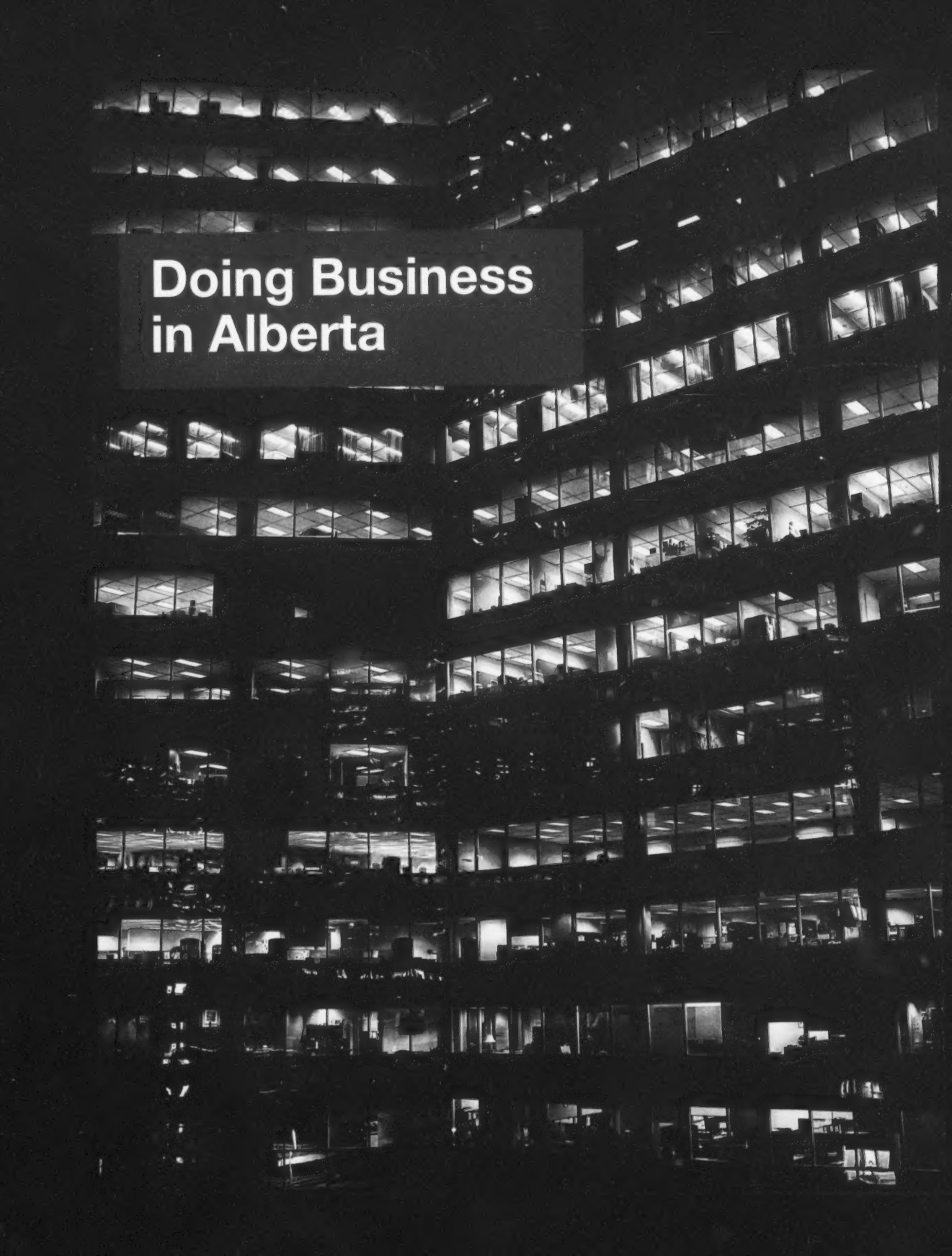
Overnight Tourism by Tourism Destination Region: 2008
Total: 41.6 Million Person Nights



- Calgary & Area **27%**
- Alberta South **10%**
- Unspecified Region **3%**
- Alberta North **6%**
- Alberta Central **16%**
- Edmonton and Area **21%**
- Canadian Rockies **17%**

* Expenditure for 2009 is based on estimates and not actual expenditure.

Sources: Statistics Canada and Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation


Doing Business
in Alberta

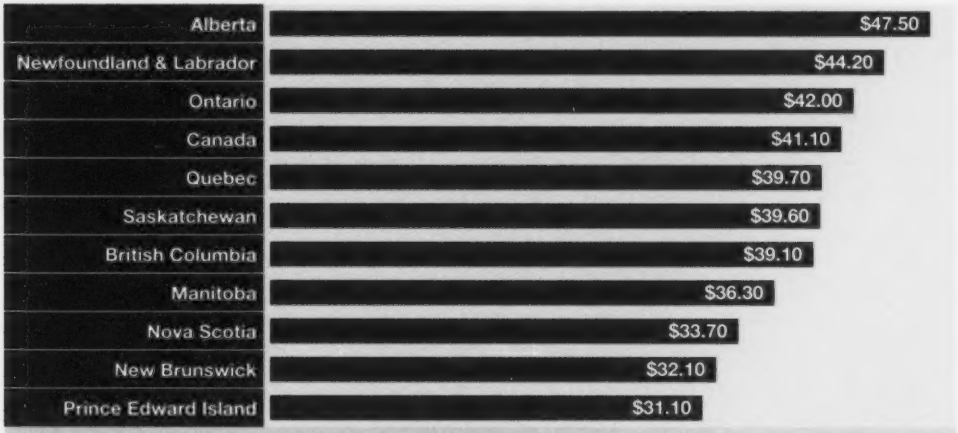
DID YOU KNOW?

* In 2009, Alberta had the highest GDP per capita of any jurisdiction in North America.
* Alberta's attractive business environment has resulted in the province posting the fastest growing small business sector in Canada over the last 10 years.
* Alberta has one of the most competitive business tax environments in North America. Alberta's 2010 combined federal and provincial corporate income tax rate of 28 per cent is the lowest in the country.
* In 2009, almost two-thirds of Alberta's labour-force – 25 years of age and older – reported holding a university degree, post-secondary diploma or certificate.

Competitiveness

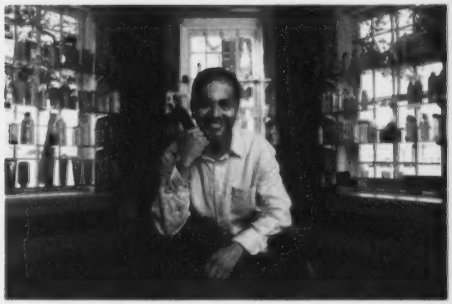
- In 2009, Alberta's labour productivity was higher than any other province. The total value added per hour worked in Alberta exceeded the Canadian average by about 16 per cent.
- While Alberta's long-term economic growth prospects remain strong due to energy prices, increased productivity growth will be important to optimize the economic benefits from energy investment in Alberta, and to encourage higher value-added activity and industrial diversification.
- In 2010, the *Alberta Competitiveness Act* was passed. The Act aims to better coordinate the efforts of government and industry to ensure the province remains one of the most competitive jurisdictions in the world.

Labour Productivity 2009 (Real GDP per Hour Worked, in 2002 constant dollars)



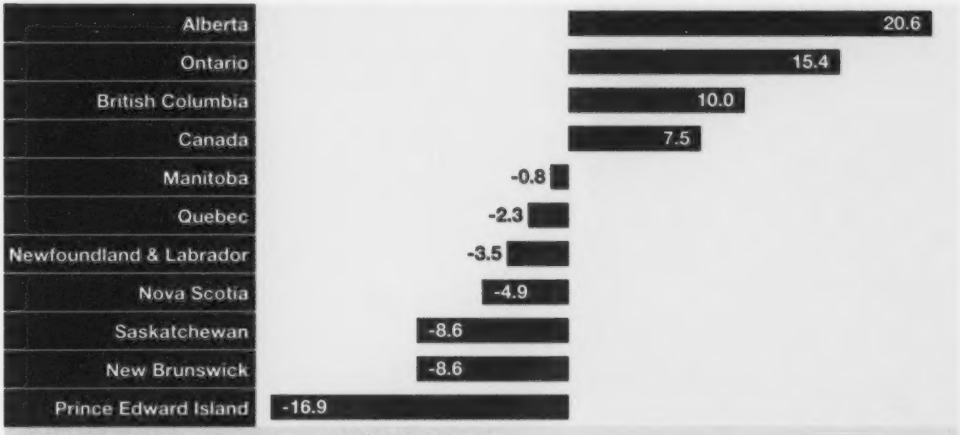
Sources: Statistics Canada and Alberta Finance and Enterprise

Entrepreneurship



- Alberta's dynamic and innovative business climate is evident by growth in the number of small businesses.
- For the last decade, Alberta has led Canada in the number of new small businesses which are defined as business establishments with less than 50 employees.
- From 1999 to 2009, Alberta enjoyed an increase of 24,922 (or 20.6 per cent) in the number of small business establishments.
- For the same period, the province's increase of businesses with less than 10 employees was also the highest at 23.8 per cent compared to the Canadian average of 6.9 per cent.
- Between 2001 and 2004, Alberta's small business corporate income tax rate was cut in half to three per cent, and between 2001 and 2009 the small business income threshold more than doubled to $500,000.

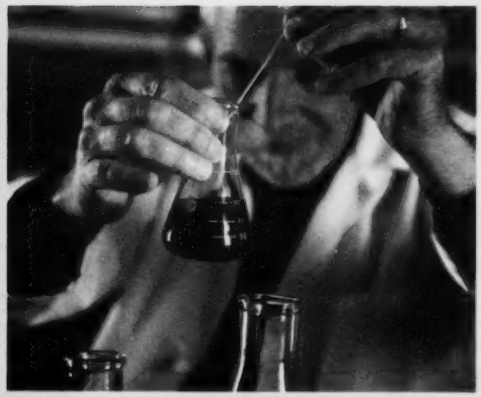
Small Business – Cornerstone of the Economy 1999–2009
[Percentage Change in Small Business Establishments (Less than 50 Employees)]

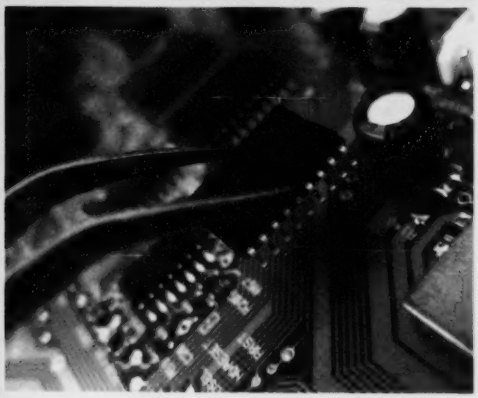


Sources: Canadian Business Patterns and Statistics Canada

Under the banner **Alberta Innovates**, the Alberta government created new organizations to build on its strengths in health, energy and environment, technology and bio sectors. They include:

- Bio Solutions
- Energy and Environment Solutions
- Health Solutions
- Technology Futures
- Alberta Research and Innovation Authority





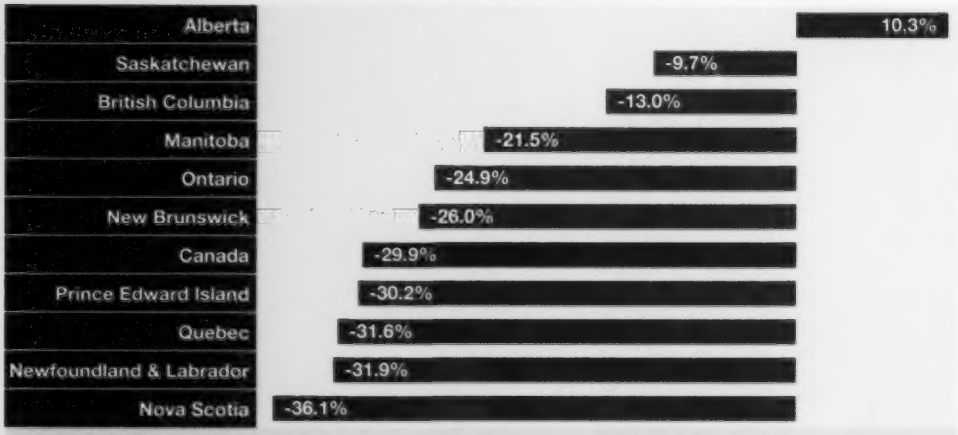
Research & Development

- Alberta's extensive network of research and development institutions is leading the way in the development and commercialization of advanced products and processes.
- The Alberta government's research and development expenditures are among the highest, on a per capita basis, in Canada. It includes $1 billion for the creation of a new Alberta Ingenuity Fund which will provide long-term funding for research and development in a variety of science and engineering fields.
- Alberta has undertaken an action plan that will provide a supportive environment for companies to grow and become successful in world markets. It builds on Alberta's strength in the advanced technology sectors of clean energy, information and communications technology, life sciences and nanotechnology.
- Effective January 1, 2009, Alberta's provincial SR&ED tax credit was worth 10 per cent of a company's eligible expenditures up to $4 million, for a maximum credit of $400,000.
- The Government of Alberta established the $100 million Alberta Enterprise Corporation to attract more venture capital to Alberta to invest in early-stage technology companies.
- The University of Alberta is home to the new National Institute for Nanotechnology which is expected to be one of the top five nanotechnology centres in the world.

Government

- The Alberta government is committed to free enterprise, sustainable economic development, a competitive tax environment and strong infrastructure.
- Alberta's strong financial position and a savings account built from past surpluses enhances the government's ability to respond to economic turbulence by supporting services, programs and infrastructure plans without jeopardizing the province's low tax regime.
  - As of March 31, 2010, Alberta's Sustainability Fund (savings from past surpluses) was about $15 billion.
  - As of March 31, 2010, Alberta's Heritage Trust Fund (long-term savings) was about $14 billion.

Provincial Net Financial Assets/Debt (Percentage of GDP, March 31, 2009)

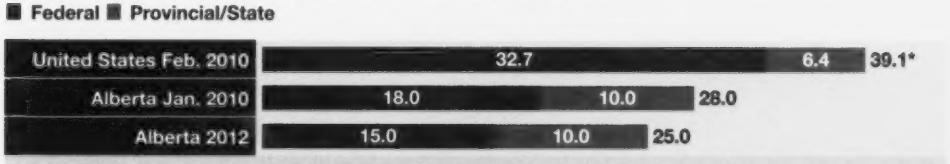


Note: Excludes Pension Liabilities.
Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise

Competitive Corporate Taxes

- Alberta has one of the most competitive business tax environments in North America. The combined federal/provincial corporate income tax rate is 28 per cent in 2010 and is the lowest in the country.
- By comparison the combined average federal/state corporate income tax rate in the United States is 39.1 per cent.
- In 2006, the Alberta government reduced its general corporate income tax rate to 10 per cent. The Government of Canada is also reducing the general corporate income tax rate to 15 per cent by 2012.
- The new income tax rates combined with no provincial capital taxes or taxes on financial institutions, no payroll taxes, no sales tax, and a publicly funded health-care system makes Alberta's tax environment very competitive.
- In 2009, Alberta's health care premiums were eliminated.

Comparison of Corporate Income Taxes (percentage)



* 6.4 per cent represents the average effective top general state corporate income tax rate. U.S. rates known as of February 2010.

Sources: Alberta Finance and Enterprise and Tax Foundation

Provincial & State Corporate Taxes

Provincial Corporate Income Tax Rates (per cent)[1]			
Province	General	Manufacturing & Processing	Small Business
Alberta	10.0	10.0	3.0
British Columbia	10.5	10.5	2.5
New Brunswick	11.0	11.0	5.0
Quebec	11.9	11.9	8.0
Manitoba[2]	12.0	12.0	1.0
Saskatchewan	12.0	10.0	4.5
Ontario[3]	12.0	10.0	4.5
Newfoundland & Labrador	14.0	5.0	5.0
Prince Edward Island	16.0	16.0	1.0
Nova Scotia	16.0	16.0	5.0
Federal	18.0	18.0	11.0

State Corporate Income Tax Rates (per cent)[4]			
State	General	Manufacturing & Processing	Small Business[5]
Washington[6]	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oregon	7.9	7.9	7.2
California	8.84	8.84	8.84
North Dakota	6.4	6.4	6.1
Montana	6.75	6.75	6.75
Idaho	7.6	7.6	7.6
Colorado	4.63	4.63	4.63
Utah	5.0	5.0	5.0
New Mexico	7.6	7.6	4.8
Louisiana	8.0	8.0	7.1
Federal	35.0	31.85	34.0

[1] Rates as of May 31, 2010 unless otherwise noted.

[2] Small business rate to be reduced to 0 per cent by December 1, 2010.

[3] Effective on July 1, 2010.

[4] Rates as of February 1, 2010.

[5] The small business rate is the effective tax rate for US $438,000 (comparable to the Canadian threshold of CDN $500,000).

[6] Washington has a business occupation tax in lieu of an income tax, which is based on gross revenue sales (0.471 per cent to 1.5 per cent according to the type of business).

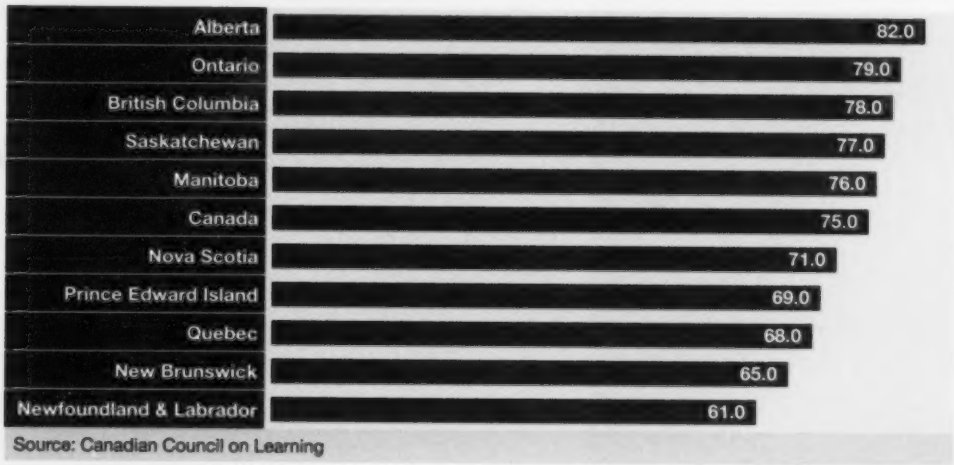
Sources: PWC Tax News Network and Federation of Tax Administrators

Educated Work Force

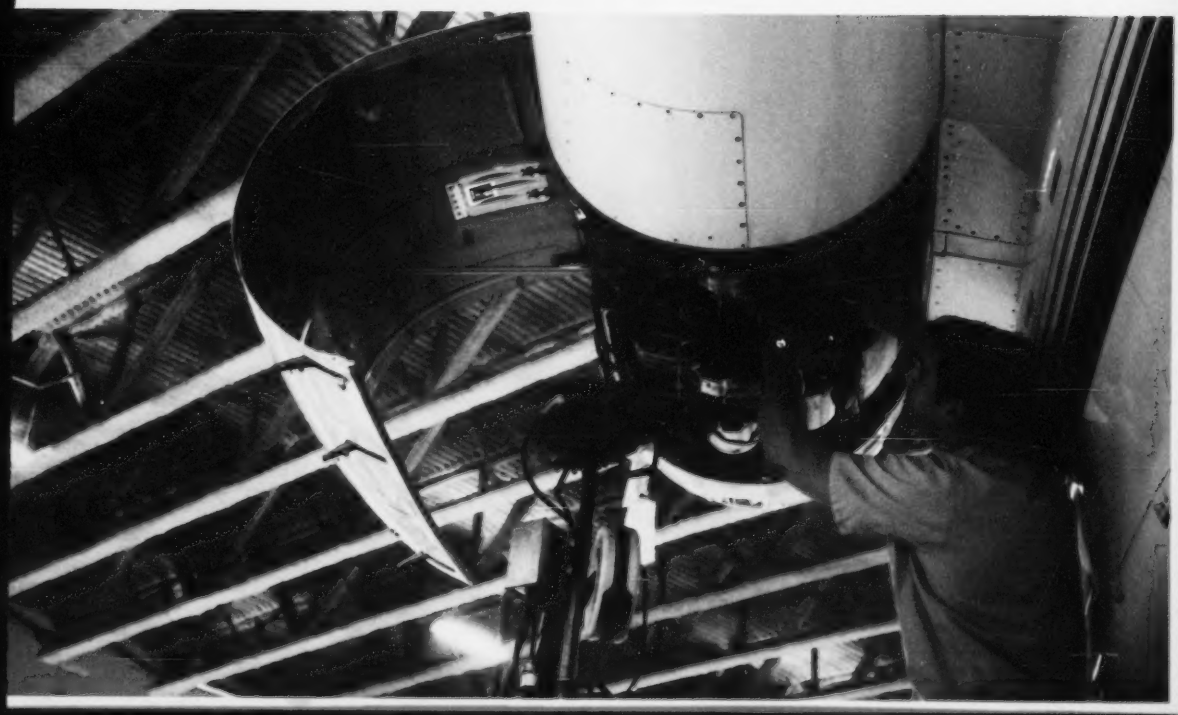
- Alberta's labour force consists of more than two million well-educated workers.
- In 2009, 63 per cent of the labour force 25 years of age and older reported holding a university degree, post-secondary diploma or certificate.
- Alberta's education system provides a learning environment conducive to economic and social success, and the pursuit of life-long learning.
- The Canadian Council on Learning an independent think-tank, developed a Composite Learning Index (CLI) which combines data based on 17 indicators and 25 specific measures that look at the learning environment. Indicators range from access to on-the-job-training, early childhood development programs, access to resources such as libraries, and exposure to sports, media, recreation, and cultural events.
- In 2010, Alberta's CLI was the highest among the Canadian provinces, with an index of 82. This represented a three percentage point advantage over second-ranked British Columbia, and a seven percentage point advantage over the Canadian CLI.

Educated Work Force

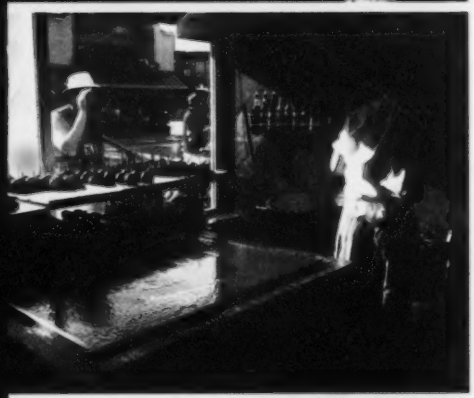
Composite Learning Index 2010



Source: Canadian Council on Learning



Working in
Alberta

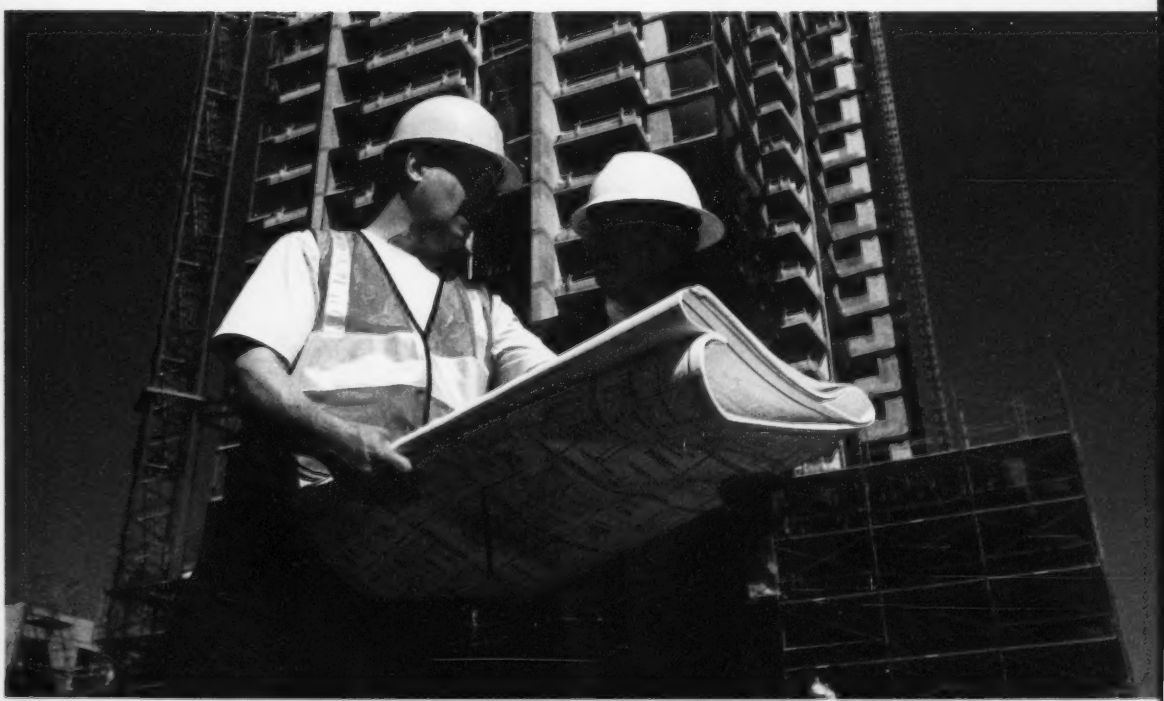


DID YOU KNOW?

* Alberta is the only province without a provincial sales tax, and has the lowest gasoline taxes in the country.
* Since 2004, Alberta's unemployment rate has been among the lowest of all the provinces in Canada, with an average rate of 3.8 per cent.
* Albertans pay low personal income taxes with the lowest top marginal income tax rate and the highest basic and spousal credits in Canada.

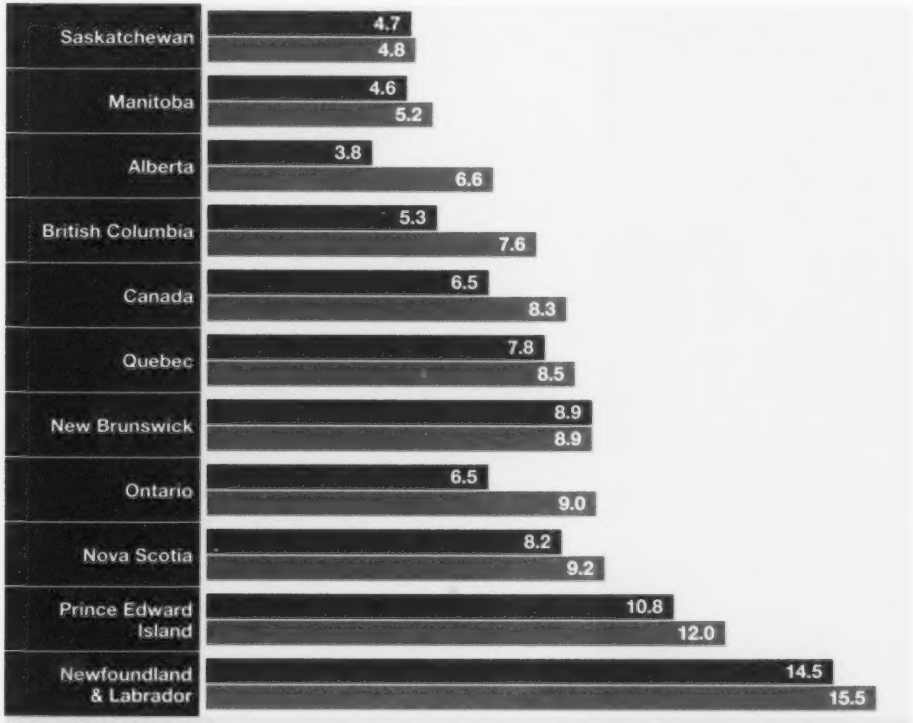
Strong Labour Market

- Since 2004, Alberta's unemployment rate has been one of the three lowest of all Canadian provinces.
- While the recent global recession resulted in increases in unemployment, Alberta's labour market will remain strong in the foreseeable future and is expected to return to a balanced labour market once the economy has fully recovered.
- Since 1999, Alberta's employment has grown an average of 44,400 new jobs per year, a growth rate of two per cent per annum.
- The average employment decreased by 25,200 in Alberta between 2008 and 2009. This compares to 54,900 jobs lost in British Columbia and 161,200 jobs lost in Ontario over the same period.
- From 2004 to 2008, Alberta's unemployment rate averaged 3.8 per cent, and was 6.6 per cent in 2009.



Strong Labour Market

Average Unemployment Rates by Province: 2004–2009 (percentage)

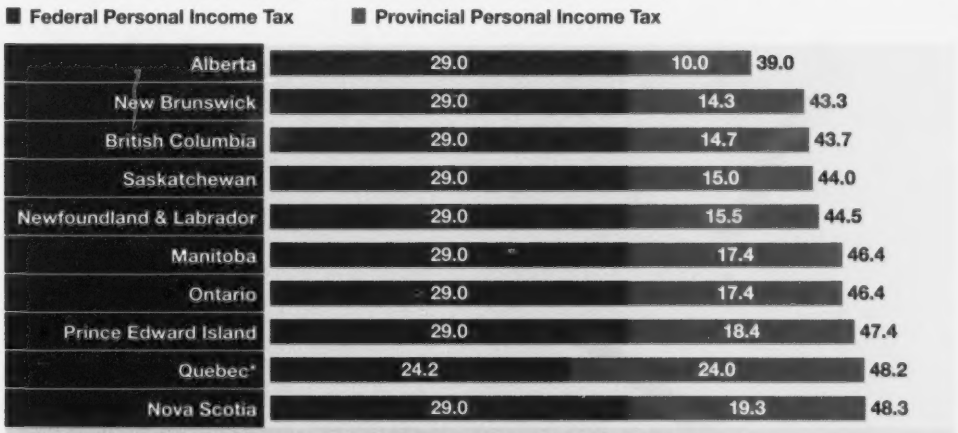


Source: Statistics Canada

Low Personal Taxes

- Alberta's personal tax advantage results from a low single rate tax system, no general sales tax, and the lowest gasoline tax in the provinces.
- Albertans pay low personal income taxes, with the lowest top marginal income tax rate and the highest basic and spousal credits in Canada. The overall tax burden on individual Albertans is the lowest of any province in Canada.
- As provided in the following examples, in Alberta a two-income family of four:
  - earning $75,000 pays about $2,900 less in total provincial taxes than in Ontario and about $2,600 less than in British Columbia.
  - earning $125,000 pays about $2,900 less in total provincial taxes than in Ontario and about $8,520 less than in Quebec.

Top Marginal Personal Income Tax Rates 2010 (percentage)


Federal Personal Income Tax
Provincial Personal Income Tax
Alberta 29.0 10.0 39.0
New Brunswick 29.0 14.3 43.3
British Columbia 29.0 14.7 43.7
Saskatchewan 29.0 15.0 44.0
Newfoundland & Labrador 29.0 15.5 44.5
Manitoba 29.0 17.4 46.4
Ontario 29.0 17.4 46.4
Prince Edward Island 29.0 18.4 47.4
Quebec* 24.2 24.0 48.2
Nova Scotia 29.0 19.3 48.3

* Federal tax payable has been reduced by the 16.5 per cent abatement for Quebec taxpayers.
Source: PWC Tax News Network, May 2010

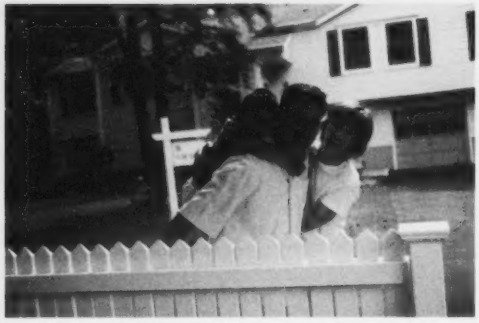
Low Personal Taxes

Comparison of Provincial and Federal Taxes by Province
(Two-income family of four earning $75,000)

Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise (as of March 2010)

Comparison of Provincial and Federal Taxes by Province
(Two-income family of four earning $125,000)

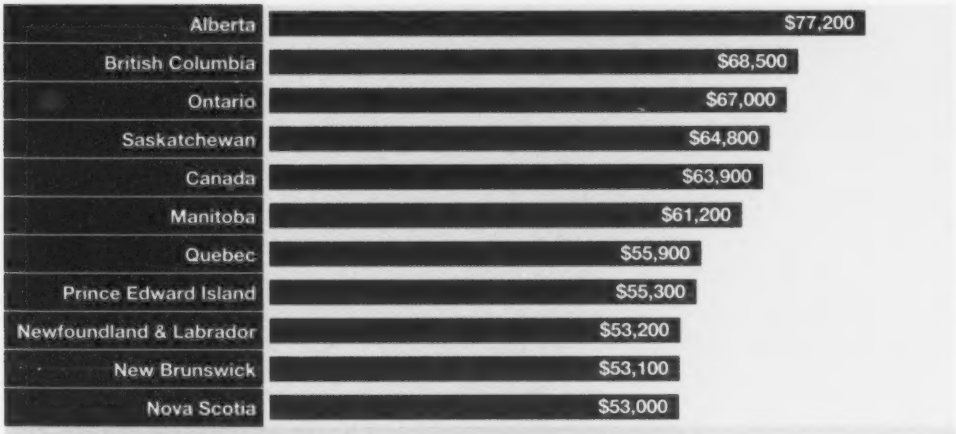
Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise (as of March 2010)



Family Income

- After-tax family income is comprised of market income and government transfers net of income taxes.
- In 2008, for the fifth consecutive year, families living in Alberta had the highest median after-tax income at $77,200. For that same year, the median after-tax income was $68,500 in British Columbia and $67,000 in Ontario.
- Another measure of income is median family market income. This is a sum of earnings from employment, investment income and private retirement income excluding government transfers.
- In 2007, Alberta families had $81,400 in market income, 30 per cent more than the Canadian average of $62,700, and $13,900 more than second-ranked Ontario.

2008 Median After-tax Family Income (families with two persons or more)

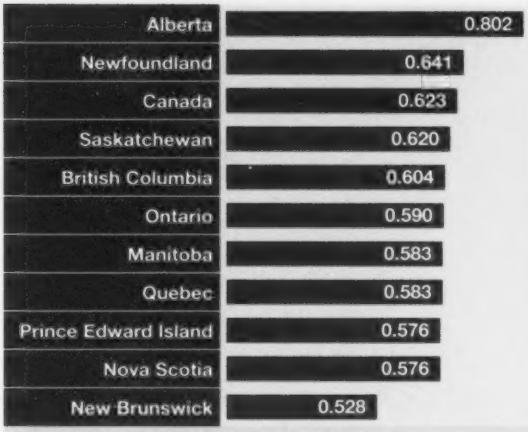


Source: Statistics Canada

Standard of Living

- Alberta has been the nation's leader in economic well-being for more than 30 years.
- As a measure of economic welfare, the Ottawa-based Centre for the Study of Living Standards has developed an Index of Economic Well-Being.
- The Index of Economic Well-Being focuses on consumption rather than production and emphasizes the household perspective. It includes measures of wealth, the distribution of income and wealth, economic security, environmental sustainability and non-market activities such as household work.
- In 2009, Alberta maintained the top spot in the nation with an index value of 0.802, a 29 per cent advantage over the Canadian average.
- The province's strong performance in economic well-being indicators was also evident in international comparisons. In 2008, Alberta ranked second in an international comparison of economic well-being in Alberta and 14 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations.

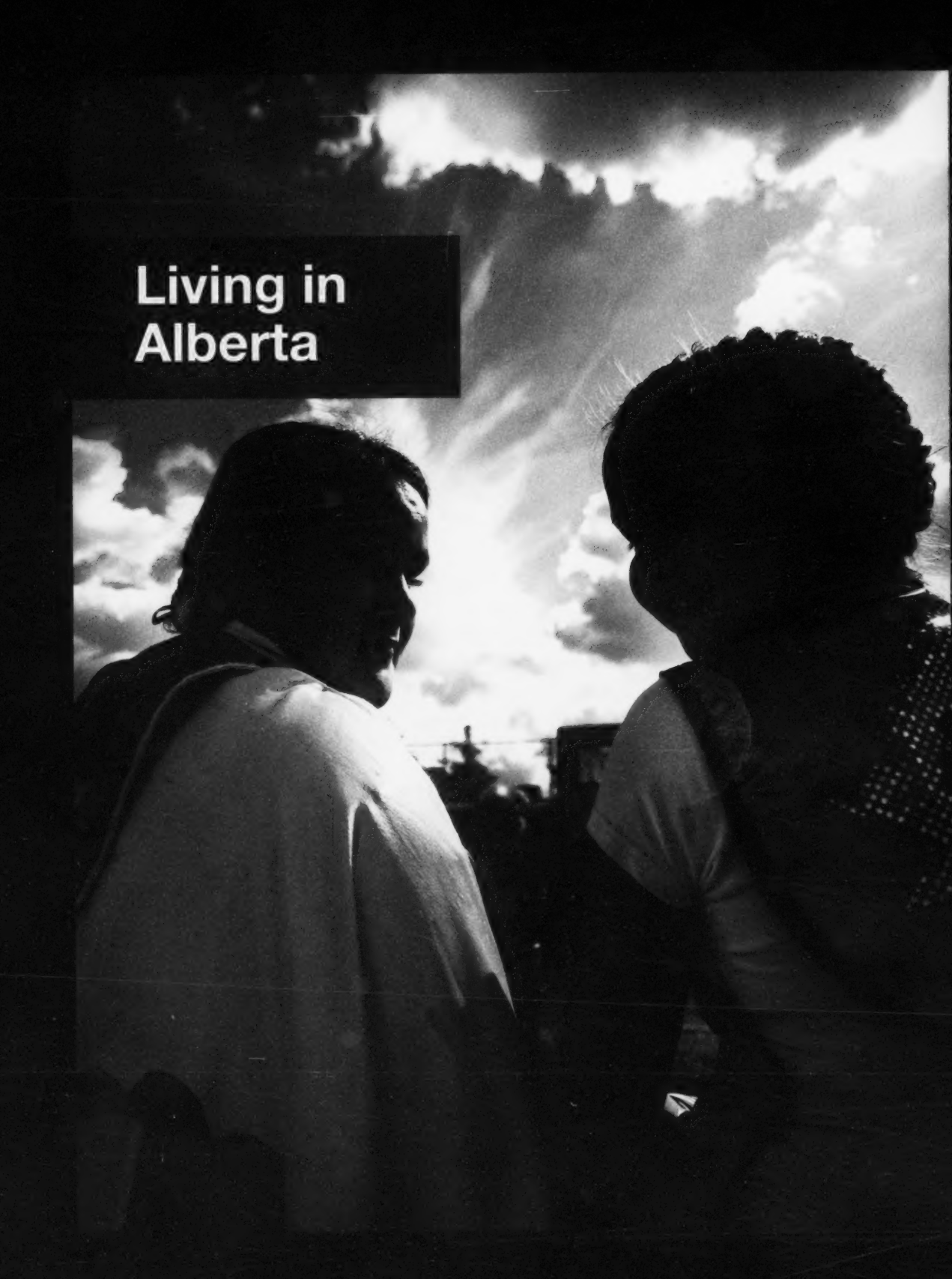
Provincial Comparison: 2009

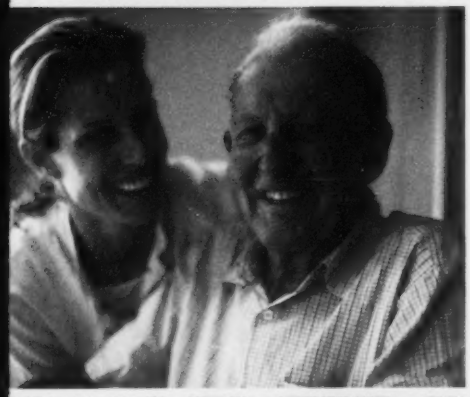


Source: Centre for the Study of Living Standards

International Comparison: 2008

Source: Centre for the Study of Living Standards


Living in
Alberta



DID YOU KNOW?

* Alberta is home to an ethnically diverse population with a strong representation of Aboriginal and Métis people, and an increasing number of migrants from Asia and other regions.

* Alberta students had the second highest average score in science in the 2006 Program for International Student Assessment examinations which are conducted in 57 countries and the 10 Canadian provinces.

* Alberta ranks first among the Canadian provinces in age/gender adjusted per capita spending on government health expenditures.

Alberta Population by Ethnic Origin, 2006

Ethnic Origin	Number	Total Pop. (per cent)
Total	3,256,355	100.0
English	885,825	27.2
German	679,705	20.9
Canadian	667,405	20.5
Scottish	661,265	20.3
Irish	539,160	16.6
French	388,210	11.9
Ukrainian	332,180	10.2
Dutch (Netherlands)	172,910	5.3
Polish	170,935	5.2
North American Indian	169,355	5.2
Norwegian	144,585	4.4
Chinese	137,600	4.2
Swedish	93,810	2.9
Russian	92,020	2.8
East Indian	88,165	2.7
Métis	83,235	2.6
Italian	82,015	2.5
Welsh	76,115	2.3
American	64,200	2.0
Danish	58,825	1.8
Filipino	54,305	1.7
British Isles	53,855	1.7
Hungarian	48,665	1.5
Austrian	36,480	1.1
Spanish	30,995	1.0
Romanian	26,870	0.8
Vietnamese	25,170	0.8
Swiss	22,185	0.7

Note: These numbers add up to more than the population due to multiple responses.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population

People

- Alberta is home to an ethnically diverse population of over 3.7 million people.
- One in six Albertans was born outside of Canada, making Alberta one of the most multi-national and multi-cultural provinces in the country.
- Alberta has the youngest population of all Canadian provinces with a median age of 35.6 years. This compares to a median age of 39.5 in Canada.
- The vast majority of the population are of European ancestry, with a strong representation of Aboriginal and Métis people, and an increasing number of migrants from Asia and other regions. All contribute to the province's rich cultural diversity.

Education

- Albertans are among the best educated people in North America.
- Campus Alberta is instrumental in supporting learners, society and the economy. It is a comprehensive, coordinated publicly funded post-secondary system that ensures all Albertans have access to affordable and high quality learning opportunities to meet their lifelong learning goals. This system has benefited from significant public investment in recent years.
- Twenty-six diverse institutions, modern facilities, integrated technologies, and online learning combine to create innovative teaching and research opportunities for over 264,000 students, spanning every region of the province.
- Alberta's apprenticeship and industry training system is second to none, training over 20 per cent of Canada's apprentices, despite having only 11 per cent of its labour force.
- Campus Alberta is supplemented by a multitude of community-based, religious, and vocational training opportunities. Together, Alberta's post-secondary providers are offering the quality education and training Albertans need, where and when they need it.

Comprehensive Academic & Research Institutions	Athabasca University; University of Alberta; University of Calgary; University of Lethbridge
Baccalaureate & Applied Studies Institutions	Grant MacEwan University; Mount Royal University
Polytechnic Institutions	NAIT*; SAIT* Polytechnic
Comprehensive Community Institutions	Bow Valley College; Grand Prairie Regional College; Keyano College; Lethbridge College; Medicine Hat College; NorQuest College; Northern Lakes College; Olds College; Portage College; Red Deer College
Independent Academic Institutions	Ambrose University College; Canadian University College; Concordia University College of Alberta; The King's University College; St. Mary's University College
Specialized Arts & Culture Institutions	Alberta College of Art and Design; The Banff Centre

* Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

Note: Full Time and Part Time Students, 2008-2009

Quality of Education

- Alberta ranks with the world's best in terms of the quality of education.
- The Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) is a tool developed by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to provide policy-oriented indicators of the skills and knowledge of 15-year olds' capabilities as they near the end of compulsory education.
- The 2006 examinations placed Alberta among the top ranks of the 57 countries and 10 Canadian provinces where the tests were conducted. Alberta students have the second highest average score in science, the fourth highest score in reading, and the seventh highest score in mathematics.

Top Scores in Mathematics, Science and Reading 2006 PISA* Examinations

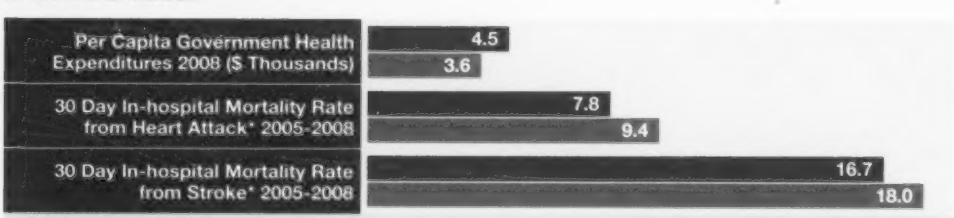
Mathematics			Science			Reading		
1	Taiwan	549	1	Finland	563	1	Korea	556
2	Finland	548	2	Alberta	550	2	Finland	547
3	Hong Kong	547	3	Hong Kong	542	3	Hong Kong	536
4	Korea	547	4	British Columbia	539	4	Alberta	535
5	Quebec	540	5	Ontario	537	5	Ontario	534
6	Netherlands	531	6	Canada	534	6	British Columbia	528
7	Alberta	530	7	Taiwan	532	7	Canada	527
8	Switzerland	530	8	Estonia	531	8	Quebec	522
9	Canada	527	9	Japan	531	9	New Zealand	521
10	Ontario	526	10	Quebec	531	10	Ireland	517
45	United States	474	39	United States	489	n/a	United States	n/a

* PISA tests 15-year-olds' mathematics, science and reading skills.
Note: The rank is out of 67 jurisdictions (average = 500).
Sources: Measuring Up: Canadian Results of the OECD PISA Study and Statistics Canada

Health Care

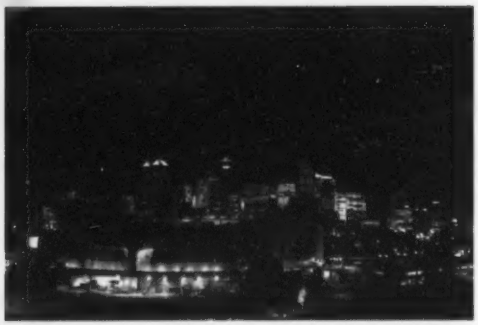
- Compared to other Canadian provinces, Alberta ranks first in age/gender adjusted per capita spending on government health expenditures and for funding more health services than required under the *Canada Health Care Act*.
- Alberta has a number of world-class facilities that specialize in cardiac care. The Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton is the largest pediatric heart transplant centre in Western Canada and one of the best in North America. The new Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute which opened in Edmonton in 2008 will provide more resources for cardiac care, including cardiac surgery, research and education.
- To enhance access to radiation therapy services throughout Alberta, a "Capacity Corridor for Cancer Radiation Therapy" is being developed that is creating three new sites for radiation therapy in Lethbridge, Red Deer and Grande Prairie. The new treatment centres will improve access to radiation therapy for Albertans by providing the services at more locations closer to home.

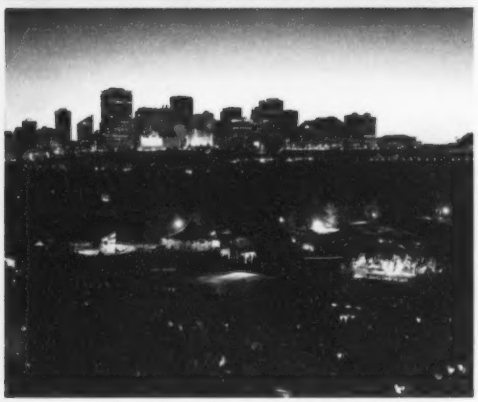
Selected Health Indicators



* Risk Adjusted Percentages

Sources: National Health Expenditure Trends, 1975-2008, Canadian Institute of Health Information (CIHI); Health Care in Canada and Health Indicators Report, Canadian Institute of Health Information (CIHI), and Statistics Canada





Arts and Culture

- Alberta has diverse arts and cultural communities. Numerous community and cultural organizations provide festivals, events and attractions for Albertans and out-of-province visitors.
- Calgary and Edmonton, Alberta's two major cities, have vigorous live theatre and visual arts scenes, as well as symphony, opera and ballet. Smaller cities and towns offer unique cultural experiences with an array of festivals and opportunities to experience performing and visual arts.
- *The Spirit of Alberta*, Alberta's cultural policy, supports and creates opportunities for excellence in the arts, recreation and sports. The policy seeks to widen access to culturally diverse experiences and enhance the quality of life for all Albertans.
- Each year, over 70 festivals bring music, dance, film, literature, theatre and the visual arts to Albertans of all ages throughout the province.
- Residents and visitors alike enjoy performances by 10 major performing arts companies (opera, ballet, symphony and theatre companies), over 40 professional performing arts companies and 140 community performing arts organizations.
- The Alberta Foundation for the Arts' collection of artwork by Alberta artists is exhibited in over 200 venues throughout the province.
- Alberta is home to 20 public art galleries, including the newly renovated Art Gallery of Alberta, and numerous world class private commercial galleries.
- In 2008-09, the Alberta Film Development Program invested in over 100 film, television and digital media projects to develop local production expertise and talent.
- Alberta companies provide the highest level of per capita support to the arts in Canada.

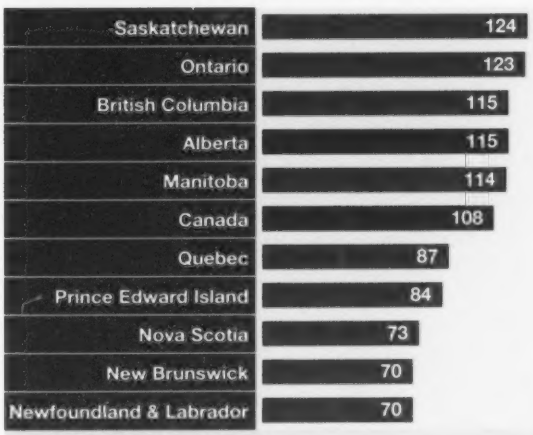
Arts and Culture

Private Sector Support of Performing Arts: 2008 (per capita dollars)

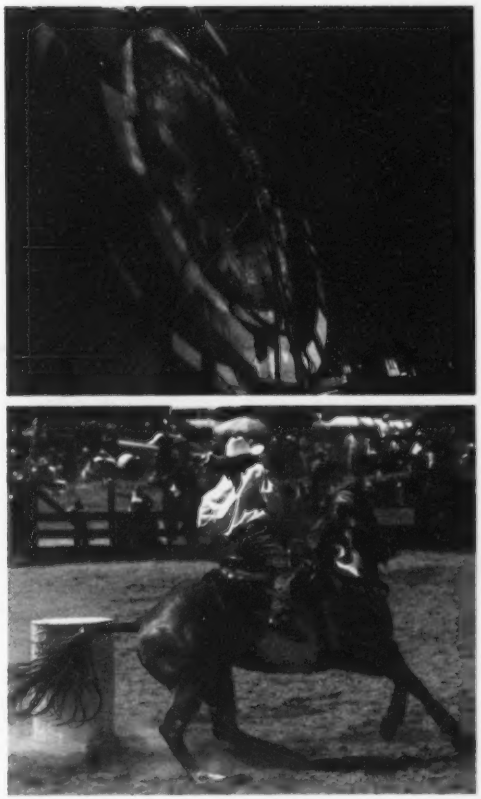
Note: Excludes statistics for Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland & Labrador and New Brunswick which were suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*.

Source: Statistics Canada

Average Household Spending on Live Performing Arts: 2008 (annual dollars)



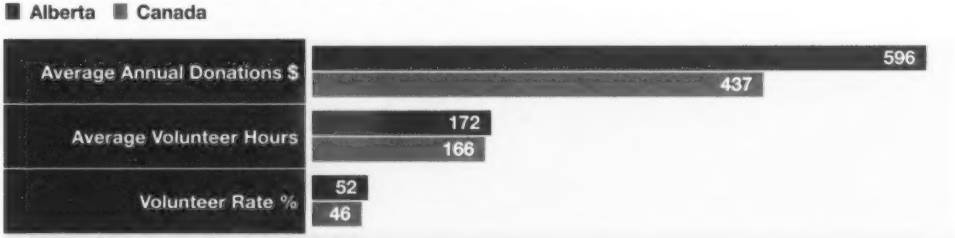
Source: Statistics Canada



Volunteerism

- Charitable giving, volunteering time to charitable and non-profit organizations, and helping people in need builds better communities.
- The 2007 Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (CSGVP) undertaken by Statistics Canada aims to collect information to better understand what motivates Canadians to give to charity, and in the process, optimize this positive influence in society.
  - Albertans give generously of their time and money for charitable causes. The survey ranks Alberta first among Canadian provinces in terms of average annual donations.
  - On average, Albertans donated $596 per year to charitable causes compared to $437 per year donated by the other Canadians.
- Albertans are also known for their volunteer spirit. Relatively more Albertans volunteered than the national average and logged longer hours than other volunteers in Canada.

Donation and Volunteer Statistics: 2007



Source: Statistics Canada, CSGVP, 2007

Alberta Online Resources

Alberta Government	www.alberta.ca
Alberta Finance and Enterprise	www.finance.alberta.ca www.albertacanada.com
Doing Business in Alberta:	
Investing and Locating	www.albertacanada.com/intl-business/establishing-a-company.html
Exporting Your Products	www.albertacanada.com/ab-business/exporting-your-products.html
Industry Sectors	www.albertacanada.com/ab-business/alberta-industries.html
Regional Development	www.albertacanada.com/about-alberta/regional-economic-development.html
Community/Market Information	www.albertacanada.com/about-alberta/the-economy.html
Visiting Alberta:	
Travel Alberta	www1.travelalberta.com
List of Festivals in Alberta	www.culture.alberta.ca/arts/artsfestivals
Vacation Guides	www.travelalberta.ca/cfforms/freestuff
Provincial Parks	www.gateway.cd.gov.ab.ca
Tourism	www.tpr.alberta.ca
Working and Living in Alberta:	
Immigrating	www.albertacanada.com/immigration
Things to Do	www.tprc.gov.ab.ca and www.culture.alberta.ca/arts/artsfestivals
Health Care	www.health.alberta.ca
Education	www.education.alberta.ca
Alberta Learning Information Service	www.alis.alberta.ca
Advanced Education and Technology	www.advancededucation.gov.ab.ca

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